

*b1
cont*

optimized for asynchronous data transfer to the link device in the first node and link drive configuration optimized for isochronous data transfer to the link device to the link device in the second node to thereby support the behavior carried out by each respective module.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 22 with:

b2

A main pointer 14 provides a link to the link data structure 10. Link devices nodes 12a through 12n further may include a peer pointer 16a through 16(n-1) to thereby allow TNF kernel to navigate the link data structure 10 for each link device in the module. Thus, node 12a includes peer pointer 16a to node 12b, node 12b includes peer pointer 16b to node 12c, etc. Since the last node does not have additional peers to point to, node 12n does not include a peer pointer, shown as null pointer 18.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 14 with:

b3

In operation, when module 26 is initialized, Link drivers 40a through 40c are loaded (initialized) for respective Links 30a through 30c. As noted above, drivers are loaded according to the type of module involved. For embedded systems, the method for installing device drivers will vary depending on the needs of the implementation. Device drivers for locally resident drivers may be precompiled into a ROM image. Under this arrangement, at boot time the drivers would be called to perform initialization thereof. Link drivers 40a through 40c are then configured as described below. TNF kernel 38 becomes aware of LINKS 30a through 30c. For each Link 30a through 30c, the TNF kernel 38 creates link device nodes (12a through 12c) using the link data structure 10 as described above in conjunction with FIG. 2. As noted above, other data structures may be used without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 10 with:

BK

The module 42 further includes device driver services (IO coordinator 44) operatively coupled to the TNF kernel 38 and the LINKS 30a through 30c. The IO coordinator 44 provides, among other things, event notification to TNF kernel 38 of links 30a through 30c.